AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraphs on page 4, line 10 to page 5, line 7 and replace them with the following paragraphs:

Moreover, a peptide is preferably used in which

Z_5 is a peptide moiety comprising the amino acid sequence

Asp Lys Lys Arg Glu Glu Ala Pro Ser Leu Arg Pro Ala Pro Pro Ile Ser Gly Gly Gly Tyr Arg **(SEQ ID NO: 1)**

Z_1 is a histidine moiety,

Arg is an arginine moiety,

Z3 is a proline moiety, and

Z_4 is a leucine moiety.

Furthermore, a peptide is preferably used in which

Z_5 is a peptide moiety comprising the amino acid sequence

Glu Arg His Gln Ser Ala Cys Lys Asp Ser Asp Trp Pro Phe Cys Ser Asp Glu Asp Trp Asn Tyr Lys **(SEQ ID NO: 2)**

Z_1 is a proline moiety,

Arg is an arginine moiety,

Z3 is a valine moiety, and

Z_4 is a valine moiety.

Furthermore, the invention relates to the use of a peptide which exhibits the N-terminal sequence

Gly-His-Arg-Pro-Leu-Asp-Lys-Lys-Arg-Glu-Glu-Ala-Pro-Ser-Leu-Arg-Pro-Ala--Pro-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Gly-Gly-Gly-Tyr-Arg **(SEQ ID NO: 3)**

and which has the biological property of matching the inducible VE-cadherin binding motif on the Bβ-chain (i.e. $B\beta_{15-42}$) of human fibrin for the preparation of a pharmaceutical preparation for the treatment of shock.

A further preferred embodiment of the use according to the invention is characterized in that the peptide is

Gly-His-Arg-Pro-Leu-Asp-Lys-Lys-Arg-Glu-Glu-Ala-Pro-Ser-Leu-Arg-Pro-Ala-Pro-Pro-Pro-Ile-Ser-Gly-Gly-Gly-Tyr-Arg **(SEQ ID NO: 3)**.

Please delete the paragraph on page 6, line 27 to page 7, line 2 and replace it with the following paragraph:

In detail, 96 well protein immobilizer plates (Exiqon, Vedbaek, DK) were coated with recombinant human VE-cadherin FC fusion protein (8 nM/ml; R&D Systems, Minneapolis) in PBS and were left overnight at 4 °C. Plates were then washed and incubated with peptide $B\beta_{15-42}$ (GHRPLDKKREEAPSLRPAPPPISGGGYR **(SEQ ID NO: 3)**) tagged with a FLAG-sequence (DYKDDDDK **(SEQ ID NO: 4)**) at the C-terminus of the peptide or with a FLAG-tagged random peptide (DRGAPAHRPPRGPISGRSTPEKEKLLPG **(SEQ ID NO: 5)**) at a concentration of 0-80 μMol. After washing, bound FLAG-tagged peptide was detected by incubation with a peroxidase-labelled anti-FLAG antibody (Sigma, St. Louis, USA) and chromogenic substrate. Optical density was determined by an ELISA plate reader set at a wavelength of 450 nm. Data represent the mean of three independent experiments, each performed in triplicates. The table below shows that the peptide $B\beta_{15-42}$ bound to VE-cadherin in a concentration-dependent manner. In contrast, the random peptide demonstrated only insignificant binding.

Please delete the paragraph on page 9, line 29 to page 10, line 2 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Dengue virus in the animals' blood was identified by RT-PCR as described earlier (Harris et al. J. Clin. Microbiol. 36, 2634-2639). Total RNA from the blood was isolated using a kit from Quiagen (Germany). Primers were as following: upper

5'AATATGCTGAAACGCGAGAGAAACCG **(SEQ ID NO: 6)** (position 136-161), lower 5'AAGGAACGCCACCAAGGCCATG **(SEQ ID NO: 7)** (position 237-258), amplifying a 119 bp product. To quantify the virus load, DEN-2 was titrated onto Vero E6 cell cultures as described earlier (Harris et al. J. Clin. Microbiol. 36, 2634-2639). On day 0 and 22 after the challenge blood of the surviving mice was analyzed for anti-DEN-2 antibodies (IgG) by ELISA as described earlier (Ignatyev et al. J. Biotechnology. 44, 111-118).